

# **OTHER SIDE CARDS**

## **PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT**

There's already so much pollution.  
What difference does tobacco  
smoke make?

## **PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT**

What about auto exhaust and  
factory pollutants? They are  
harmful too.

## **PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT**

Well everything's bad for you —  
coffee, sugar, even apples. It's  
all too complicated.

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*Tobacco smoke paralyzes the cilia in people's bodies. Cilia are like little brooms that sweep pollutants out of our respiratory systems. When they're damaged, our bodies are less capable of handling all pollutants, not just tobacco smoke.*

## **OTHER SIDE CARDS**

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*None of these other possible problems even begins to approach the level of hazards in tobacco. And really, it's not complicated: clean air is better than dirty air.*

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*Auto emissions and factory discharges are controlled by law, which helps to limit the harm they can do. Our goal is to make equally strict laws against the pollutants in tobacco smoke.*

## PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT

But you eat junk food, so how can you say you're concerned about your health?

## PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT

You didn't complain before about smoke bothering you.

## PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT

People have a right to smoke.

## PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT

It's not fair to tell smokers they can't go to *[fill in the blank]*.

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*I know more now than I did before about how dangerous secondhand smoke is. I have the right to change my mind, and to speak up about something I tolerated in the past.*

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*I have the right to choose what's important to me. No one else can decide that for me.*

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*Smokers may go anywhere. They just can't smoke everywhere.*

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*There is no constitutional freedom to use recreational drugs or to do medical harm to another person.  
"Right" is a strange word to describe a public health threat.*

## **PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT**

Smoking is an adult  
freedom of choice.

## **PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT**

Tobacco is a legal product.

## **PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT**

The majority of people in this  
meeting/office/restaurant are  
smokers, so the majority  
should prevail.

## **PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT**

Restaurants (or other places) are  
private places; let the owners  
decide whether tobacco is allowed  
or not. People who don't like  
smoke can just go to another  
restaurant.

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*Not everything related to tobacco is legal. Special licenses are required to sell it. It can't be advertised on the airwaves or large billboards. It's illegal to sell to minors. Its use is prohibited in many public places. It's more accurate to describe tobacco as a dangerous, controlled substance like alcohol and guns.*

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*Almost all smokers started in childhood, when they were too young to make a life-and-death choice. They were overwhelmed by billions of dollars of tobacco marketing, which made an informed choice impossible. They continue smoking because of addiction.*

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*Restaurants are places of public accommodation, licensed to serve everyone, and must meet minimum health standards. Also, restaurants are workplaces and employees there deserve the same protections as employees in other workplaces.*

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*If the majority of people want to rob another person of his or her health, a majority opinion is not the appropriate way to decide. Our society has a principle that some basic rights cannot be taken away from a minority by the majority.*

## **PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT**

There are too many laws and rules. Whatever happened to plain, old-fashioned courtesy?

## **PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT**

I want to smoke just as much as you want to have air without smoke. Why should your wishes win over mine?

## **PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT**

I own a business, and I need to allow smoking if I want to make a profit.

## **PRO-TOBACCO ARGUMENT**

Our economy needs the income from the tobacco business.  
Government needs taxes from tobacco sales.

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*Smoking is optional.  
Breathing isn't.*

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*If courtesy were adequate to protect people, society would need no laws at all. Besides, rules don't interfere with people who are courteous, they only interfere with people who are discourteous.*

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*Our government spends more money because of the death, disease, and destruction caused by tobacco than we gain from the tobacco industry's business.*

## **ANTI-TOBACCO RESPONSE**

*Scientific studies show that workplaces, malls, restaurants, and hotels don't lose business when smoke-free air laws are passed.*